



We make lives better
through connections.

July 6, 2026

RTD Comprehensive Operations and Network Needs Evaluation for Community Transit (CONNECT)

**Aligning the transit network with our region's
needs and resources**

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Agenda

- COA Outcomes
- Project Timeline



COA Outcomes

RTD CONNECT kicked off in March

- The COA is intended to:
 - Evaluate how RTD's network should evolve in the near- and long-term
 - Align service with today's travel patterns, land use, and customer needs
 - Provide a roadmap for a useful, equitable, and financially sustainable network



What is a COA?

- Used by transit agencies to address changing travel patterns, regional growth, and mobility needs in communities
- Ensures the agency effectively delivers bus and rail services in a manner that supports our mission of *making lives better through connections* across the entire service area



SHAPING THE FUTURE OF TRANSIT



Service Changes (3x/year)



- Fine-tune routing, schedule tweaks, respond to demand shifts
- Implements minor adjustments that cannot be forecast years ahead

Short-Term Service Plan (5-year horizon)



- Sets near-term network strategy based on resources
- Revisited periodically as constraints/opportunities shift
- Informed by the COA and aligned with long-term vision

Long-Term Vision (30-year horizon)



- Supports major investments and infrastructure direction
- Refined periodically to maintain alignment with strategic plan
- Defines long-range goals and network aspirations

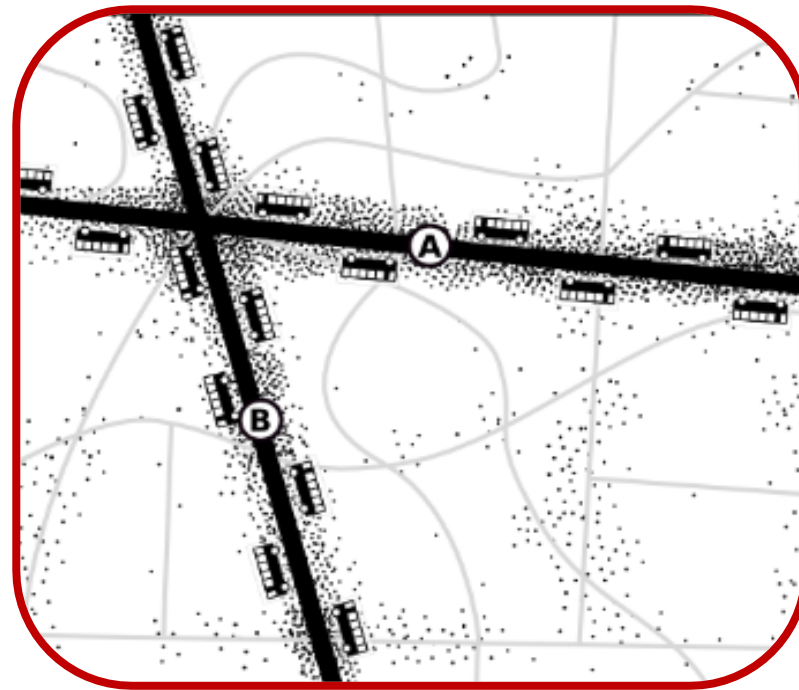


Baseline Scenarios

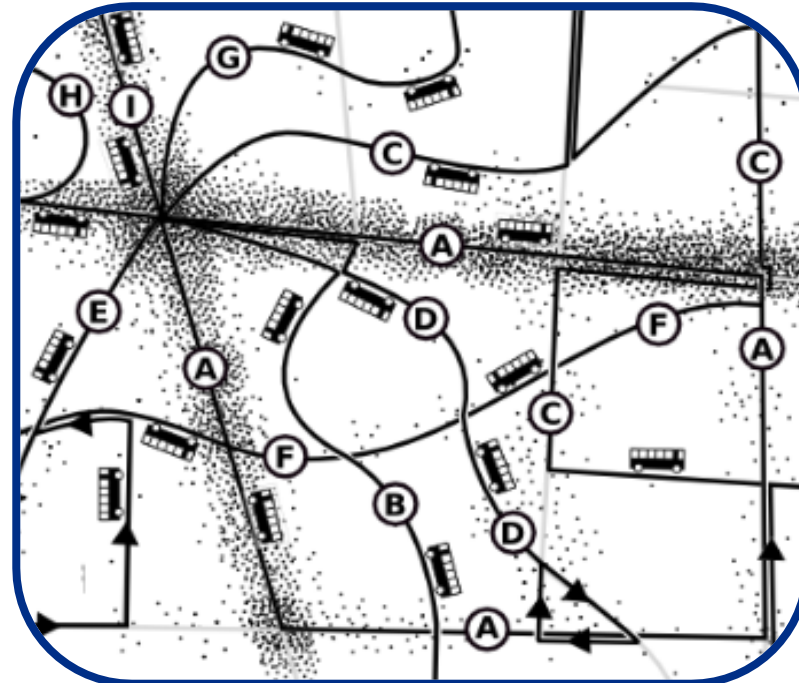
Contrasting visions will be developed to illustrate trade-offs in the short-term (2028), including:

- **Frequency focus:** designed to focus on areas where people most likely will use transit
- **Coverage focus:** designed to serve as much of the service area as possible

The **short-term network plan** will be developed based on Board direction, after stakeholders and the public engage with the alternatives and provide comments



Maximizing
Frequency



Maximizing
Coverage

Long-Term Vision

- Less constrained network roadmap beyond five years
- Technical foundation for a potential ballot measure
- Objective service standards defining total regional transit needs
- Synthesized long-term vision for service delivery and infrastructure investment



Project Timeline

PROJECT ROADMAP

PHASE 1: CURRENT CONDITIONS

Understand the current network, market and industry conditions



PHASE 2: NETWORK ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

Share alternatives that show what the network could look like if designed to maximize utilization or maximize coverage. Understand the public, stakeholders, and Board's priorities for a future network



PHASE 3: DRAFT PLANS

Share short-range service and long-range vision plans for input from the public, stakeholders, and Board



PHASE 4: FINAL PLANS

Finalize short and long-range plans and prepare for implementation



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A community conversation

Who

- Current customers and community members
- Community-based organizations (CBOs) and neighborhood groups
- Local governments and regional leaders
- Advocacy organizations
- Service councils and advisory committees
- Staff and Board



A community conversation



How

- Digital tools (e.g., project website, project inbox, social media, WhatsApp groups)
- Communications toolkits for partners
- Community ambassadors
- Pop-ups and in-community events
- Virtual and in-person public meetings

Thank you.

rtd-denver.com

